GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1880
ANSWERED ON:05.12.2005
UNSAFE REPACKING OF CHEMICAL WASTE INSIDE UNION CARBIDE FACTORY
Virendra Kumar Shri

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware of the incidents of unsafe repacking of chemical waste inside the Union Carbide Factory of Bhopal by Ramky Enviro Engineers Limited, Hyderabad;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken to stop such unscientific and unsafe repacking of chemical waste there?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN)

(a) to (c) The High Court of Madhya Pradesh while hearing the Writ Petition No. 2802/2004 has constituted a Task Force under the Chairmanship of the Secretary, Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals, to monitor the implementation of the road map prepared by the Government of Madhya Pradesh for removal/disposal of toxic wastes lying at the Union Carbide plant site. The agency engaged, viz. M/s. Ramky Enviro Engineering Limited, Hyderabad has carried out the work of repacking the stored toxic wastes in a scientific manner under the overall monitoring of the Madhya Pradesh Pollution Control Board. As intimated by the State Pollution Control Board of Madhya Pradesh, the company had taken all safety precautions during the execution of the entire job of repacking of toxic wastes, carried out from 16th June to 20th June, 2005. Air monitoring was also carried out during the repacking work and no pesticides were detected in the collected dust. The waste is now safely stored in a shed within the plant premises. A complaint regarding unsafe repacking methods from `The International Campaign for Justice in Bhopai` was received by this Department on 2nd June, 2005 and referred to the Madhya Pradesh Pollution Control Board, who have categorically denied the veracity of the allegations made.